

# **AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in this application.

1-24. (Canceled)

25. (Currently Amended) A method of implanting an intervertebral implant into an intervertebral disc space between upper and lower vertebrae, ~~the intervertebral implant including an intervertebral spacer body having an upper endface to contact at least a portion of the upper vertebra and a lower endface to contact at least a portion of the lower vertebra; a first end member including a plurality of spikes for engaging at least a portion of the upper vertebra; and a second end member including a plurality of spikes for engaging at least a portion of the lower vertebra; the method comprising the steps of:~~

a) providing an intervertebral implant including an intervertebral spacer body having an upper endface to contact at least a portion of the upper vertebra and a lower endface to contact at least a portion of the lower vertebra; a first end member including a plurality of spikes for engaging at least a portion of the upper vertebra and one or more elastically deformable projections extending from an inner surface of an internal bore formed in the first end member; and a second end member including a plurality of spikes for engaging at least a portion of the lower vertebra and one or more elastically deformable projections extending from an inner surface of an internal bore formed in the second end member, each of the projections including a transversely extending lug for engaging the intervertebral spacer body;

b) providing access to the intervertebral disc space;

c[[b]]) inserting the intervertebral implant into the intervertebral disc space such that the upper endface of the spacer body contacts at least a portion of the upper vertebra and the lower endface of the spacer body contacts at least a portion of the lower vertebra; ~~and~~

d[[c]]) slidably, non-rotatably moving the first and second end members with respect to the intervertebral spacer body between a second position wherein the plurality of spikes formed on the first and second end members do not extend beyond the upper and lower endfaces and a first position wherein the plurality of spikes formed on the first and second end members extend beyond the upper and lower endfaces and at least partially into engagement with the upper and lower vertebrae, respectively, the projections being in contact with the inner surface of the internal bore when the first and second end members are in the second position so that the intervertebral spacer body can move past the projections; and

e) securing the position of the first and second end members to the intervertebral spacer body in the first position via the projections moving out of contact with the inner surface of the internal bore formed in the first and second end members, respectively, and into engagement with the intervertebral spacer body when the first and second end members are in the first position.

26-32. (Canceled)